

UNCLASSIFIED

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12/27/78

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /058 W

R 271715Z DEC 78
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4847

[REDACTED] ASUNCION 5524

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(X) Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s):
Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgra
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reasc

E.OM 12065: ADS 12/26/80 (DION, JERROLD MARK) OR-M
TAGS: PGOV, SHUM, PA

SUBJECT: GOP ANNOUNCES RELEASE TO TWO MORE POLITICAL PRISONERS;
ONE FORMER HUNGER STRIKER

REF: ASUNCION 5135

1. PRESS DECEMBER 27 ANNOUNCES RELEASE FROM DETENTION OF TWO MORE
POLITICAL PRISONERS, ONE OF WHOM PARTICIPATED IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER
HUNGER STRIKE AND WHOSE RELEASE GOP GUARANTEED TO WESTERN AMBASS-
ADORS. EDUARDO BOGADO TABAGMAN WAS LAST OF FOUR HUNGER STRIKERS
GOP PROMISED TO RELEASE IN SEPARATE UNDERTAKINGS TO WEST
EUROPEAN (FRG, UK AND FRANCE) AND TO U.S. AMBASSADORS. OTHER
PRISONER RELEASED, ROLON CENTURION, HAD TAKEN PART IN HUNGER STRIKE
BUT GAVE UP BEFORE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WITH INTERIOR MINISTER
MONTANARO.

2. COMMENT: AFTER MONTHS LONG DELAY IN FULFILLING PROMISE,
EURPEAN AMBASSADORS WENT TO SEE FONMIN NOGUES LAST WEEK TO REMIND
HIM OF PLEDGE. I MADE SAME POINT TO PAPPALARDO AND ACOSTA IMMEDIATE-
LY THEREAFTER. TARDILY BUT FINALLY, THIS PROMISE HAS BEEN REDEEMED
AND GOP IS NOW DOWN TO FIVE POLITICAL PRISONERS --THREE PARAGUAYANS:
CARLOS BARANAS GADEA, JOSE GILL OJEDA FELKAN, VIRGILIO BAREIRO; ONE
ARGENTINE, AMILCAR SANTUCHO; AND ONE AUSTRIAN, GUNTHER OTTO
PORTENSCHLAG. UNFORTUNATELY, FONMIN NOGUES HAS TOLD THE FRG
AMBASSADOR THAT BOGADO TABAGMAN WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE
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COUNTRY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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3. FRG AMBASSADOR ENGELS JUST CALLED TO TELL ME THAT THE INTER-FAITH COMMITTEE HAS ADVISED HIM BOTH BOGADO TABAGMAN AND ROLON CENTURION WERE DEPORTED TODAY TO CLORINDA, ARGENTINA, JUST ACROSS THE RIVER FROM ASUNCION.

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